

AGENDA ITEM 5: Executive Director report – May 18, 2017

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Requested Action: Receive report

Executive Director Report – May 18, 2017

Program and Project Update

1. **Delta Heritage Area Initiative (DelHAI) Feasibility Study:** Commission staff recently selected a consulting team led by Garavaglia Architecture to prepare feasibility studies on potential heritage projects in the Delta. Potential projects may include reuse of historic buildings or development of parks, public art projects, or trails. Funding for the feasibility studies was provided by the Delta Stewardship Council. Staff are currently finalizing the contract with the consultant.
2. **Delta AgPlus Luncheon and Workshop:** The Commission co-sponsored a luncheon and workshop on Friday, May 12th at the Courtland Auditorium that connected Delta food and agricultural businesses with business resources and financing opportunities. The luncheon and workshop was organized by Valley Vision and also co-sponsored by the River Delta Unified School District, Sacramento County, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
3. **Flood Season Update:** At the Delta Working Group (representatives on federal, State and local flood agencies) meeting on April 26, the discussion focused on the response to flood conditions from the winter 2017 storms. Strengths of this year's emergency storm response included trained and experienced staff and the quick responses of emergency personnel. Continued State/local funding for levee improvements and State grants for local emergency response plans were especially important. Several Delta levee engineering firms had requested materials from the state-run depot stations and changes were suggested for tracking shipments out and then replacement of materials back to the original location. Other recommendations included improving emergency notifications of residents (Tyler Island was used as an example) and further investigating a unified command structure which was utilized in San Joaquin County.
4. **Land Use and Resource Management Plan (LURMP) Update:** As Commission staff continue efforts to advance the LURMP update, we are planning a June 12 meeting with county and city planning officials from the Delta region to initiate a discussion about

Delta land use and resource issues and how these should be reflected in the LURMP update.

- 5. Commission Land Use Comments:** As part of the Commission’s responsibility to ensure that local land use decisions in the Delta are consistent with the Land Use and Resource Management Plan (LURMP), staff prepare comment letters to advise local agencies on their projects’ consistency with the LURMP; the Commission also frequently comments on State and federal projects that would impact Delta resources. The chart below lists the comment letters prepared by Commission staff from March 9, 2017 through May 11, 2017.

**Land Use Projects – Comment Letters
March 9, 2017 through May 11, 2017**

County	Project Description	Authority	Primary (P) or Secondary (S) Zone or D (Delta-wide)	Comments
Contra Costa	Farmworker Housing Ordinance: <i>Modifications to bring housing element and zoning ordinance into compliance with state housing and employment law.</i>	Jurisdictional development project	P/S	Encouraged that County is providing development and occupancy standards, and permit and fee requirements to ensure safe and orderly development of farmworker housing within County.
Multi-County	Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Update and EIR: <i>Outlines State approach to reducing flood risk to areas protected by State Plan of Flood Control, including recommendations on policies and financing.</i>	Non-jurisdictional project that may affect Delta resources; Great California Delta Trail	D	CVFPP encourages land use planning practices that reduce the consequences of flooding. Encourage the continued use of advisory groups. Need for larger consensus-building process with local agency officials and agricultural interests on how to implement a new fee structure in rural areas. Suggest DWR and CVFPB promote the use of DWR’s “good neighbor checklist”.
Multi-	Delta Plan	Delta as Place	D	Council’s covered action

County	Amendments EIR NOP: <i>Proposed amendments involve three Delta Plan components: Delta Levees Investment and Risk Reduction Strategy, Delta Conveyance, Storage, and Operation, and Performance Measures</i>			process should be used to consider Delta conveyance options rather than environmental review process. Proposed amendments do not include reasonable range of alternatives described in California Water Code. Amendments should do more to address Delta as an evolving place. Urge Council to postpone environmental review process and revise amendments.
Multi-County	Water Quality Control Plan for the Bay-Delta Estuary Phase 1, Substitute Environmental Document: <i>Updates flow standards for San Joaquin River system and salinity standards for southern Delta.</i>	Delta as Place	D	Premature to revise salinity standards at this time. Support continuation of temporary barriers, special studies, and development of coordinated operations plan. Recommend a broad array of options be tested and evaluated.
Yolo	Bogle Wind Turbine EIR: <i>Permit to allow construction and operation of single wind turbine to power Bogle wine production facility.</i>	Jurisdictional development project	P	Supportive of projects that sustain agriculturally-related businesses and infrastructure, utilize renewable energy, and minimize conversion of agricultural land. EIR should discuss whether turbine would impair future functionality of nearby Swainson's hawk conservation easement.

Administrative Update

1. **Budget Update:** The sum of the Commission's FY 16-17 budget of \$1,489,000, roll-over of contract funding from previous fiscal years, and \$735,000 in reimbursements from DWR and DSC, compared with projected spending show a slight surplus of funding at year's end; see page 5.

2. **Staffing Update:** The Commission is excited to welcome Melinda Dorin as our new Project Manager. Melinda started with the Commission on April 12 and previously worked as a self-employed environmental consultant and before that at the California Energy Commission. We're also advertising for a new Commission Clerk and hope to introduce this new staff member at the Commission's July 20, 2017 meeting.

Upcoming Events:

May

- May 20: Asian Pacific Spring Festival in Locke <http://www.locke-foundation.org>
- May 20: ZinFest Wine Festival in Lodi <http://www.zinfest.com/wine-festival>
- Every Saturday: Saturday Nights at the Barn in West Sacramento
<https://offthegrid.com/event/saturday-nights-at-the-barn/2017-5-13-5pm>

June

- June 2: First Friday in Walnut Grove:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/721593197962722/>
- June 10: Second Saturday – Explore Isleton
http://www.isletonchamber.com/event/second-saturday-explore-isleton/?instance_id=13
- June 10: 2nd Saturday Art in Clarksburg <http://oldsugarmill.com/events.html>
- June 24: Delta Fusion in Stockton <https://deltafusionstockton.com>
- Every Saturday: Saturday Nights at the Barn in West Sacramento
<https://offthegrid.com/event/saturday-nights-at-the-barn/2017-5-13-5pm>

July

- July 4: 59th Annual Barron Hilton Fireworks Extravaganza - Details TBA
- July 7: First Friday in Walnut Grove:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/721593197962722/>
- July 8: Second Saturday – Explore Isleton
http://www.isletonchamber.com/event/second-saturday-explore-isleton/?instance_id=13
- July 8: 2nd Saturday Art in Clarksburg <http://oldsugarmill.com/events.html>
- July 8: Harvest Time Festival 2017 in Brentwood
<http://harvest4you.com/event/harvest-time-festival-2017>
- July 12: California Delta Chambers & Visitor's Bureau July Mixer and announcement of "Best of the Delta" winners <http://californiadelta.org/event/delta-chambers-july-mixer/>
- July 30: Courtland Pear Fair <http://pearfair.com>
- Every Saturday: Saturday Nights at the Barn in West Sacramento
<https://offthegrid.com/event/saturday-nights-at-the-barn/2017-5-13-5pm>

Fund Source Title	Past Year (FY15-16)	Approved Budget FY 16-17	Difference	Percent Change	Roll-Over from Previous FYs (Contracts)	Amount Available in Current Year (FY16-17)
Environmental License Plate Fund (ELPF)	1,073,000	1,086,000	13,000	1%	245,383	1,331,383
Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund (H&WC)	240,000	253,000	13,000	5%	158,699	411,699
General Fund (GF)	-	150,000	150,000	100%	0	150,000
Reimbursements	260,000					
Total State Operations Budget	1,573,000	1,489,000	176,000	-5%		\$ 1,893,082
Actual Spent	1,565,588					

Strategic Theme Area	Projected Budget for Salary, Benefits, and Office Expense		ELPF / H&WC/ GF Obligations		Total	Year-to-Date Expenditures		Year-to-Date Balance
	ELPF (0140)	H&WC (0516)	Inter-agency	Multi-Year Contracts		Sent for Payment	Held In Retainer	
	Projected and Actual Expenditures							
Land (Ag, LURMP) & Water	211,432	-	-	151,750	363,182	283,250	6,946	72,986
Economic Sustainability	95,359	-	-	210,000	305,359	79,466	-	225,893
Levees / Emergency Response	52,056	-	43,303	616,697	712,056	677,810	-	34,246
Recreation	68,561	157,686	-	210,907	437,155	345,565	-	91,590
Delta Heritage	84,350	-	-	122,800	207,150	133,142	-	74,008
Outreach & Education	138,927	-	-	113,486	252,413	184,119	-	68,294
Administration & Capacity Bldg	217,164	-	-	169,256	386,420	212,567	-	173,853
Total Projected Spending	867,850	157,686			2,663,735			740,870
Total Obligations and Expenditures			43,303	1,594,896		1,915,920	6,946	
In-coming Reimbursements (multi-year)								
Levees/Emergency Response			(660,000)		(660,000)	659,761		(239)
Delta Heritage			(75,000)		(75,000)			
Total Reimbursements			(660,000)		(735,000)			(75,239)

Figures reflect regular budget expenditures, staffing charges, and contract spending through May 1, 2017